

44 PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM SCHOOL HOSPITAL

Only One Death During Day, Bringing Total at Institution Up to Fifty-Seven.

PERIOD OF EXCITEMENT OVER

From Now On, Influenza Fighters Have Only Steady Grind of Work. Help Given Other Stricken Communities by Authorities.

The keynote to the situation at the John Marshall emergency hospital was struck yesterday by Mrs. Roy K. Flannagan, wife of the City Health Officer, who sits at a desk in the receiving ward and checks up in a big ledger on her desk facts concerning the 44 patients who have been admitted to the hospital.

In my opinion, said Mrs. Flannagan, who has put her shoulder to the wheel in every worth-while movement started in Richmond for years, "the real test in this influenza situation, so far as this hospital is concerned, is now from now on is bound to be more or less of a grind, and it remains to be seen how many of us will stick to our posts and see it through."

The forty-four patients discharged yesterday brought the total up to 164. There was but one death yesterday, Joshua Robinson, a colored man, who had been in the hospital for a total of 53 days, which brings the total of deaths up to fifty-seven. Eleven new patients were admitted yesterday.

To see some cases brought to the hospital is to be very grateful to have escaped the scourge of influenza. The last patient brought in from the ambulance yesterday afternoon was a young woman, who, struggling for breath, sang monotonously in a delirium of fever as she lay on the stretcher in the receiving ward.

Are they often that? Mrs. Flannagan was asked while Dr. A. Levy, of the house staff, examined the patient. They are often very much worse," answered Mrs. Flannagan sadly.

ORPHANED WHILE THEY THEMSELVES SUFFER. A peculiarly touching feature of the hospital has been the fact that many children who have been patients in the children's wards have recovered from influenza to find that their homes had been devastated by the disease and that they, in several instances, have been orphaned while they lay in the hospital.

Recognizing this situation, the ministers' committee, under the chairmanship of Rev. J. J. Scherer, Jr., D. D., is investigating home conditions of children who are ready to be discharged. Father Hannigan has secured a house for the colored children who are homeless or, for any reason, cannot return to their own homes just yet, where probably other members of the family, in several cases, the entire family is ill with the malady.

Miss Blanche Webb, who has been on duty in the hospital, was sent to the Southwest yesterday to help Dr. Brumfield. Dr. William Meyer has been sent to another part of the State, where the situation has gotten out of hand, where he was sent on receipt of news that there were 500 cases and only one doctor, who was himself ill.

Dr. McLean immediately took two nurses and went to Clifton Forge. He wired for twenty-five beds with which to start an emergency hospital. The telegram was received within one hour of train time.

Now that the tension is relaxing, Dr. Miller can relate with amusement how in that one hour "Bob" Lecky not only got the message from Dr. McLean, but commandeered trucks, got them to the station, and, finding no available car space for the beds, unloaded part of an express car. But he went on that train to Clifton Forge.

Then Dr. McLean's two nurses both got sick, and again he wired for help, and Dr. Miller sent him two medical assistants yesterday.

"Teachers of the city schools," said

Dr. Miller, "medical students and the staff of the Medical College of Virginia, have undoubtedly saved the situation. We have talented teachers to be capable, brainy and efficient, and the medical students have done yeoman's service. Practically the entire student body has been helping us, and the senior dental men have done a wonderful job."

Members of the faculty of the medical college, like Dr. Miller himself, have nothing to say of their own part in the swift and effective organization against the onslaught of the foe, but Richmond knows that no body of men has ever rendered a more signal service to the city than the teaching force of the Medical College of Virginia during the influenza epidemic.

Dr. Miller points with pride to his chart, which shows the line which climbed so swiftly upward during the first few days of the epidemic, then "peaked" and now running along in quite a sane and normal manner. "The wards are clearing," Dr. Miller states, "and as the patients thin out in one ward we combine two wards in one. The fact that we are discharging more patients than we are taking in allows us to contract."

"We could use more volunteers because of the fact that we are sending out nurses' aids to other stricken communities. Richmond has responded nobly to the needs of the hospital, and the group of people working with us is representative of the best that the city affords."

James F. Dunn Made Captain. A letter just received from France announces that First Lieutenant James F. Dunn, formerly of the Richmond Grays, was made a captain on September 4. He arrived in France last June, and won his promotion on the battle fields of France.

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